(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) by when the expected funds are to be released to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Team has submitted its report and it is under consideration.

Review of Crop Insurance Policy

1968. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 610, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd November, 2001 and state :

(a) by when, the Crop Insurance Policy is expected to be reviewed;

(b) whether Government are aware that farmers are not getting any relief, if crops failure is in lesser villages in a unit of large area; and

(c) whether Government are considering to take one village as a single unit, in place of existing whole mandal or two mandals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) As per provision, the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is required to be reviewed and the process for reviewing the scheme has already been initiated.

(b) and (c) NAIS is an area based scheme. The scheme is implemented on a defined area of insurance *i.e.* talukas, block, Mandal, circle, phirka, gram panchayat etc. The insurance claims are paid when actual average yield of the insured crop in the notified unit area falls short of the specified threshold yield. The number of farmers benefited under the scheme till date are 3925873. In order to make more realistic assessment of crop loss, scheme provides for reducing the unit area of insurance to gram panchayat level within a period of three years of its implementation.